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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 7, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ELLEN O. TAUSCHER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rev. Michael Cummings, Burnt Swamp Association, Pembroke, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Blessed God and Father, eternal in majesty and glory, we are humbled to come before You in this moment of prayer. It is You that has made America a great Nation, established it in a glorious heritage of faith and freedom and compassion. We are privileged by Your presence among us.

Restore us to love and loyalty to You first. Give us the unambiguous view of Your desire that we might embrace it.

And may it please You to grant our esteemed leaders, these in whom America believes, throughout this Chamber, may they have wisdom and moral insight for complex decisionmaking in these uncertain days. May mutual respect abound among them. Bless them with agreement and solidarity in their quest for the well-being of all people. Lead us all to do what is right in Your eyes.

And may we together with these our leaders, honor You throughout this day and days without end. In the name of Christ, amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BACA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REV. MICHAEL CUMMINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from North Carolina is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MCINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I have the high honor today of introducing the gentleman that just spoke as our guest chaplain, the Reverend Dr. Michael Cummings of Pembroke, North Carolina. And what an honor it is to have him open Congress on this National Day of Prayer.

Born and reared in rural Robeson County, which is also my home county, Dr. Cummings has spent a lifetime sharing the positive and powerful word of God with many. And through his ministry, Mike Cummings has made a difference in changing hearts and building a better community.

He is a graduate of Campbell University, Southeastern Theological Seminary, and a recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Campbell. He has served multiple churches in southeastern North Carolina and is an instructor also at the Southern Baptist

Seminary Extension Program, and now is director of missions at Burt Swamp Baptist.

Madam Speaker, truly the Nation today has had the opportunity to hear eloquent words and the keen insight of not only one of Robeson County's most respected citizens, but also a gentleman who has led the State Baptist convention. Through his words, he has left his mark here in the U.S. House, just as he has left his mark on North Carolina and our beloved home and county.

We are thrilled today also to have his family join us. We are thrilled today to have him lead us on this National Day of Prayer.

I hope also that all Members of Congress will join us for the National Day of Prayer events that are occurring as we speak in the Cannon Caucus Room today until noon.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

MAKING IMMIGRATION REFORM A PRIORITY

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, this Sunday, many of us will be celebrating Mother's Day with our mothers, wives, daughters and all the wonderful women in our lives.

As we celebrate Mother's Day, let us not forget that there are thousands of children who will not be celebrating this day with their mothers. We must fix our broken immigration system that does not work, that fails our families, that leaves our children to fend for themselves.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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